underground railway in the cities of Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Kanpur in view of the tremendous traffic congestion in these cities and explosive growth of population;

(b) whether Government have already undertaken any survey for underground railways in the above cities and if so, the details therof indicating the result achieved;

(c) if not, what are the reasons, thereof, and

(d) whether Government would consider the possibility of undertaking the survey in the near future ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SHEILA KAUL) : (a) to (d) As far as Delhi is concerned, there is a proposal to introduce 27 kilometres of underground railway as part of Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) project. The proposal is based on a feasibility survey conduct by Rail India Technical & Economic Services. No final decision has been taken about the scheduling of the Mass Rapid Transit System Project which is estimated to cost about Rs 7500/- crores.

In regard to Bombay, Madras, Hyderabad and Bangalore, survey have not indicated the need for "underground railway" since surface/elevated rail systems would suffice.

As regards Kanpur, no feasibility study has been conducted for any rail-based metro transport system. Central assistance to a tune of 40% for undertaking a survey could be considered in the near future if a proposal is received.

COTTON PRODUCTION

5022. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total quantum of cotton production in the country and in which part of the country cotton is chiefly grown;

(b) whether any incentive is provided to the cotton growers of the country; and

(c) if so, indicate the total amount of incentive paid to the growers during the period 1992-93 and 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) According to the present assessment, the production of cotton during 1993-94 is likely to be about 118.55 lakh bales of 170 Kgs. each. The major cotton growing States are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Tamilnadu.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP), amount released by Government of India (75% central share) during 1992-93 and 1993-94 was Rs. 961.7 lakh and Rs. 665.9 lakh respectively. Besides, cottan growers were given enough intensive in terms of higher minimum support prices which were increased by Rs. 105 and Rs. 100 per quintal during 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively.

नीम पर आधारित कीटनाशकों का प्रयोग

5023. **श्री अजीत जोगी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नीम पर आधारित कीटनाशकों के प्रयोग से उन कीटों पर प्रभावी नियंत्रण कर लिया गया है जिन पर वर्तमान उपलब्ध कीटनाशक अप्रभावी सिद्ध हुए हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो नीम पर आधारित इन कीटनाशकों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए तथा प्राकृतिक खाद और कीटनाशकों पर आधारित कृषि को लोकप्रिय बनाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एस. कृष्ण कुमार) : (क) नीम आधारित कीटनाशी कुछ ऐसे कीटों और कृमियों के प्रति कारगर पाए गए हैं जिनमें प्राय: कुछ रासायनिक कीटनाशियों के प्रति-रोधक क्षमता देखी गई है ।

(ख) इस संबंध में उठाए गए प्रमुख कदम निम्नलिखित हैं :—

1. नीम आधारित कीटनाशियों के फार्मूलेशन को बढावा देने के लिए पंजीकरण की प्रक्रिया को सरल बनाना;